UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/25547
7 April 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

LETTER DATED 6 APRIL 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you that Armenian armed forces are expanding their offensive in the south-western districts of the Azerbaijani Republic. Besides the districts of Lachin and Kelbajar, and the Nagorny Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, which have been almost completely occupied, Armenian armed formations are conducting wide-scale offensive actions against the south-western districts of my Republic, namely, Kubatly, Zangelan, Djebrail and Fizuli.

In the Fizuli district of Azerbaijan, four villages have already been occupied by Armenian troops. The district centre - the town of Fizuli - is being subjected to uninterrupted rocket and artillery bombardment. Battles are raging in the immediate vicinity of the town, at a distance of 4 to 4 1/2 kilometres. Ninety per cent of the civilian population (approximately 20,000 people) have been forced to leave the town.

In the evening of 5 April, the town of Kubatly was subjected to rocket bombardment from the territory of the Goris district of Armenia. A build-up of troops and matériel can be observed in the Goris district of Armenia on the border with the Kubatly district of Azerbaijan.

In the morning of 6 April, units of the armed forces of Armenia had already started to advance from the Lachin "humanitarian corridor". Consequently, there are grounds to expect a wide-scale offensive action by the army of Armenia against the Kubatly district of Azerbaijan.

The worsening situation has brought about a new wave of refugees, this time from the four south-western districts of Azerbaijan: Kubatly, Zangelan, Djebrail and Fizuli, with a population of 215,000.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan HASSANOV
Ambassador and Permanent Representative

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